

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF

PROPOSITION 63

We must get the mentally ill off the streets and get them the treatment they need. For too long, those who suffer have been left without hope and without help.

We agree!

However, we are not swayed by those who would use nice words to pass a shortsighted measure that is guaranteed to cause long-term failure. The problems the mentally ill face require a **real plan** for the future; not promises of funding tied to dangerously volatile income sources, which can vanish in a heartbeat.

SUBJECT TO COURT ORDERED CHANGES

We all remember the economic bubble that burst in California a few years ago. Budget surpluses abounded, but suddenly without warning, the high incomes and windfalls disappeared—and took important tax dollars along with them! Overnight, looming deficits and program cuts appeared. This measure follows the *same* risky path, pinning itself to those very incomes. Such folly is ~~unreliable~~ unreliable and irresponsible.

Taxpayer-funded interests pushing this new bureaucracy claim that similar programs have "demonstrated their effectiveness" in terms of "providing services," but that is not the same thing as reducing mental illness or manifestations of it. Nor does **any** evidence show that state and local costs have declined as a result.

We need to do something about mental illness, and reject *fake solutions* like Proposition 63 that only postpone serious fixes for later. This sleight-of-hand substitute is a feel-good proposal that doesn't plan for the future and doesn't make sense. Our children and families require better.

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We urge you to vote NO on 63.

THE HONORABLE TIM LESLIE

Assemblyman, California State Legislature

DAVID YOW

Member, Citizens for a Healthy California

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